

# **Appendix F: 2022 Statewide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Business and Stakeholder Survey Results**

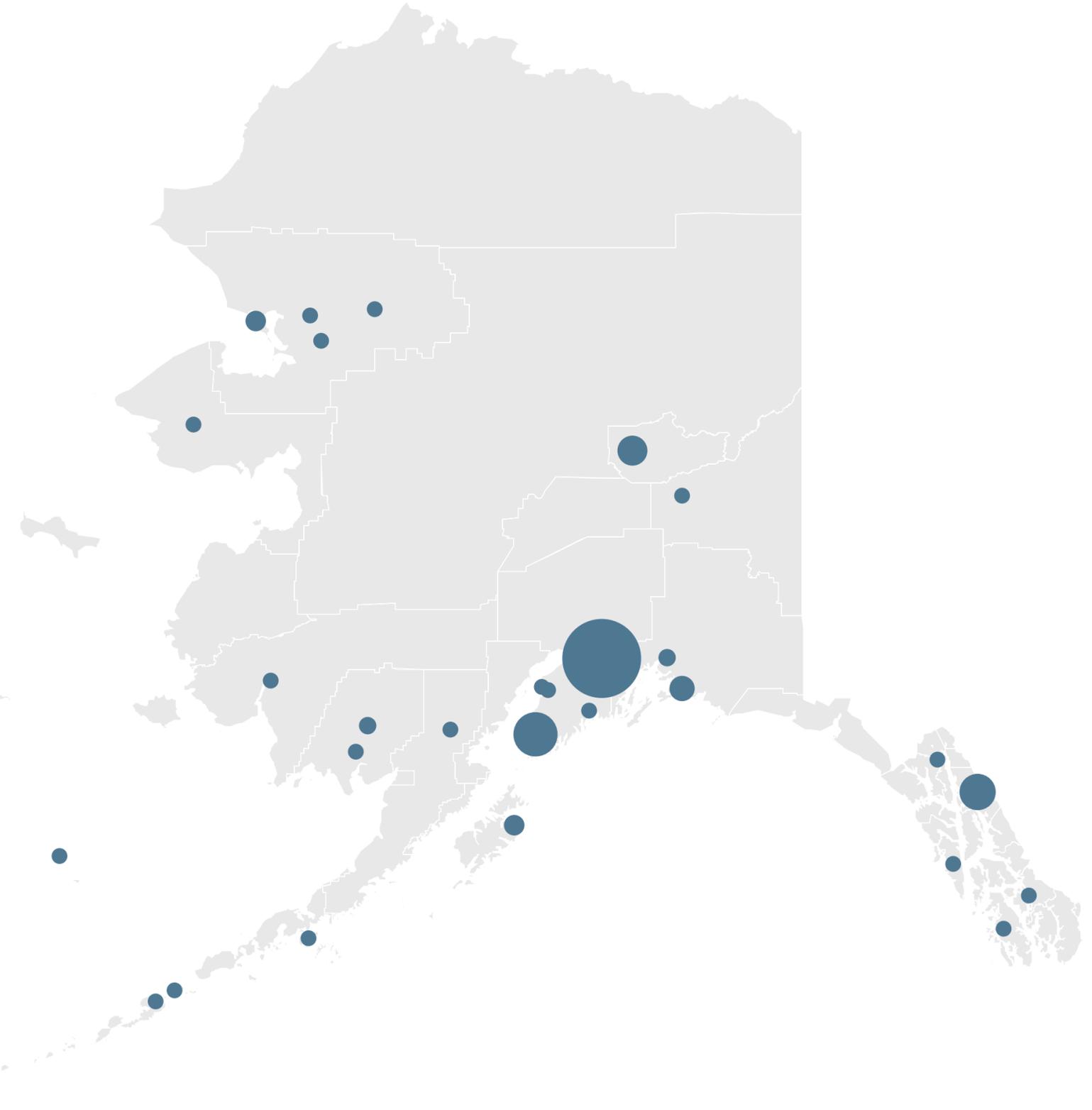


# Survey Response Quick Look

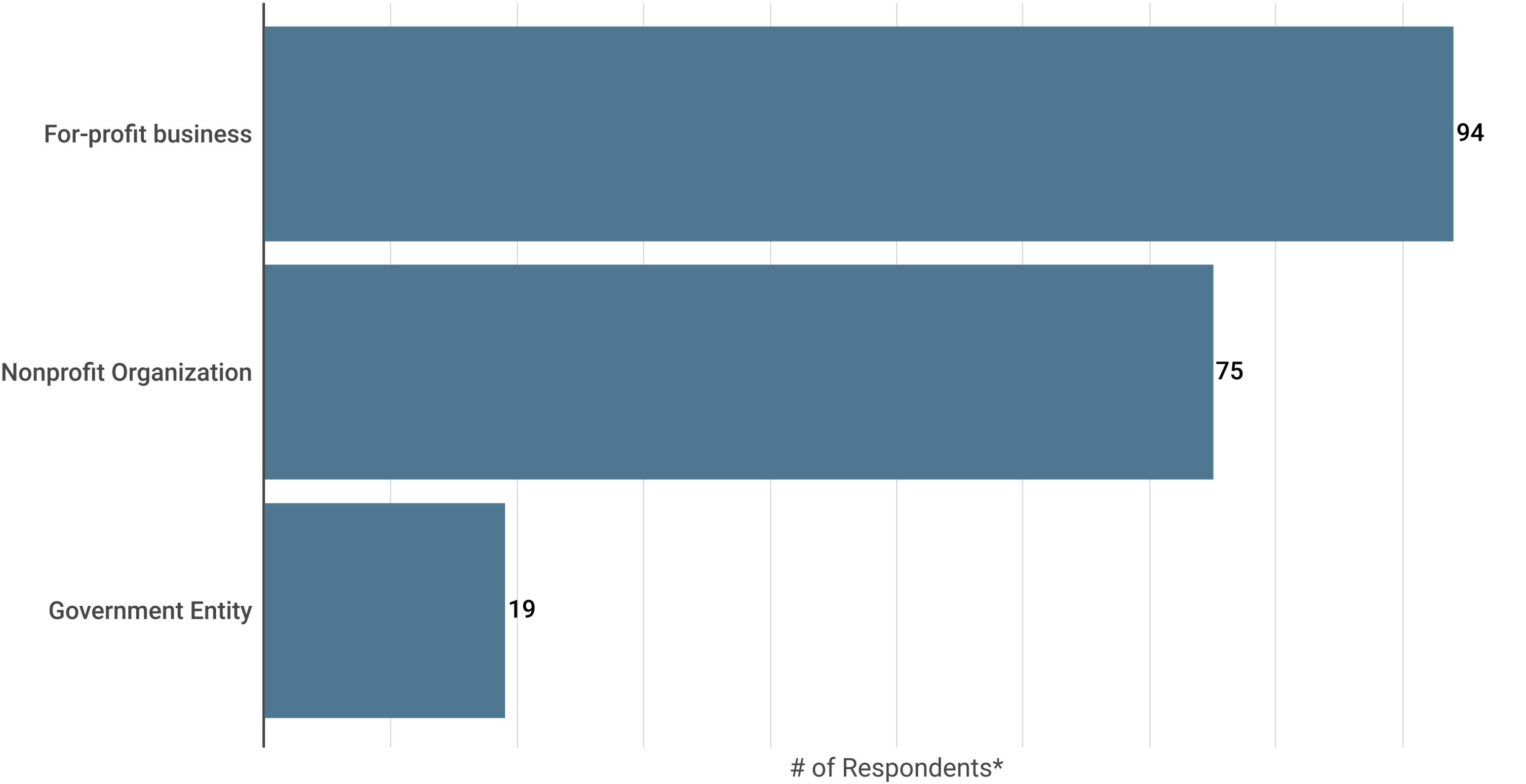
**201**  
**Total**  
**Responses**

**91%**  
of respondents  
working at for-profit  
organizations were  
based in Alaska

**95%**  
of all respondents  
work for Alaska  
based  
organizations

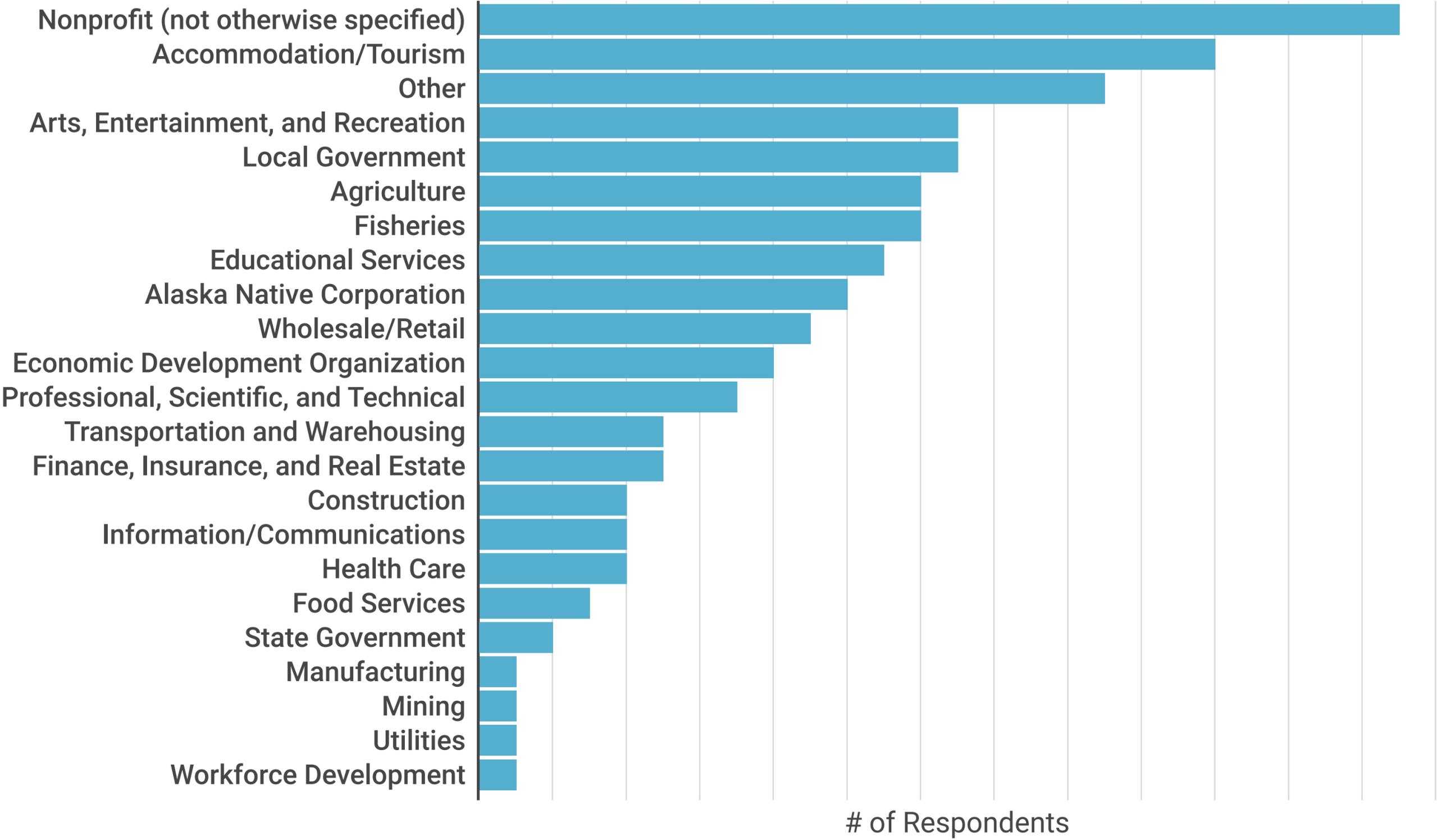


# Survey Respondent Organization Type



\*Note: The total of all categories may not total to 201. Some survey respondents chose not to answer some questions.

# Survey Respondent Industries



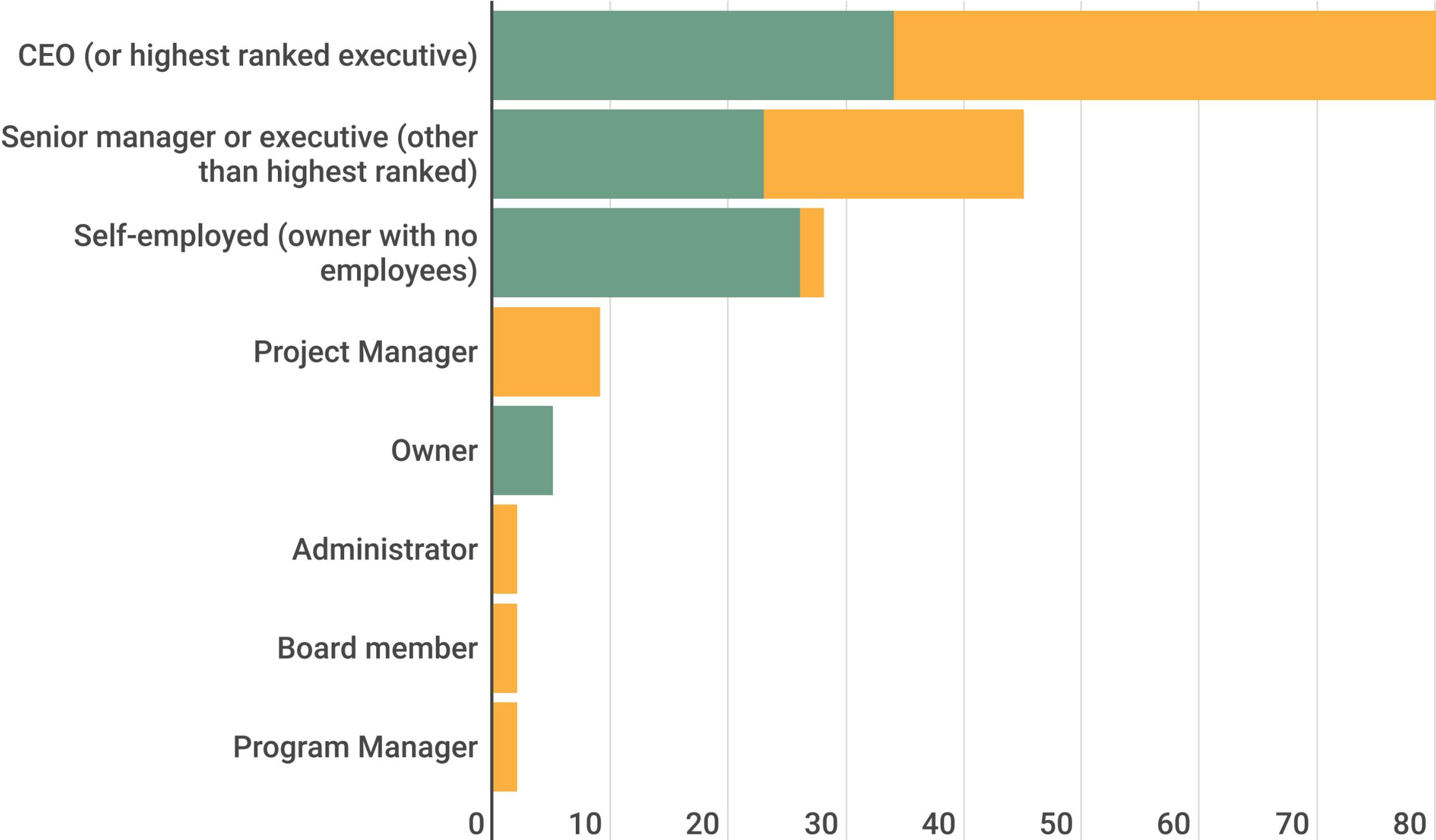
**13%**  
classified themselves  
as nonprofits with no  
other industry  
specified

**11%**  
of respondents were in  
accommodation/  
tourism

**6%**  
of respondents  
were in agriculture

\*Note: The total of all categories may not total to 201. Some survey respondents chose not to answer some questions.

# Position of Respondents within Organization

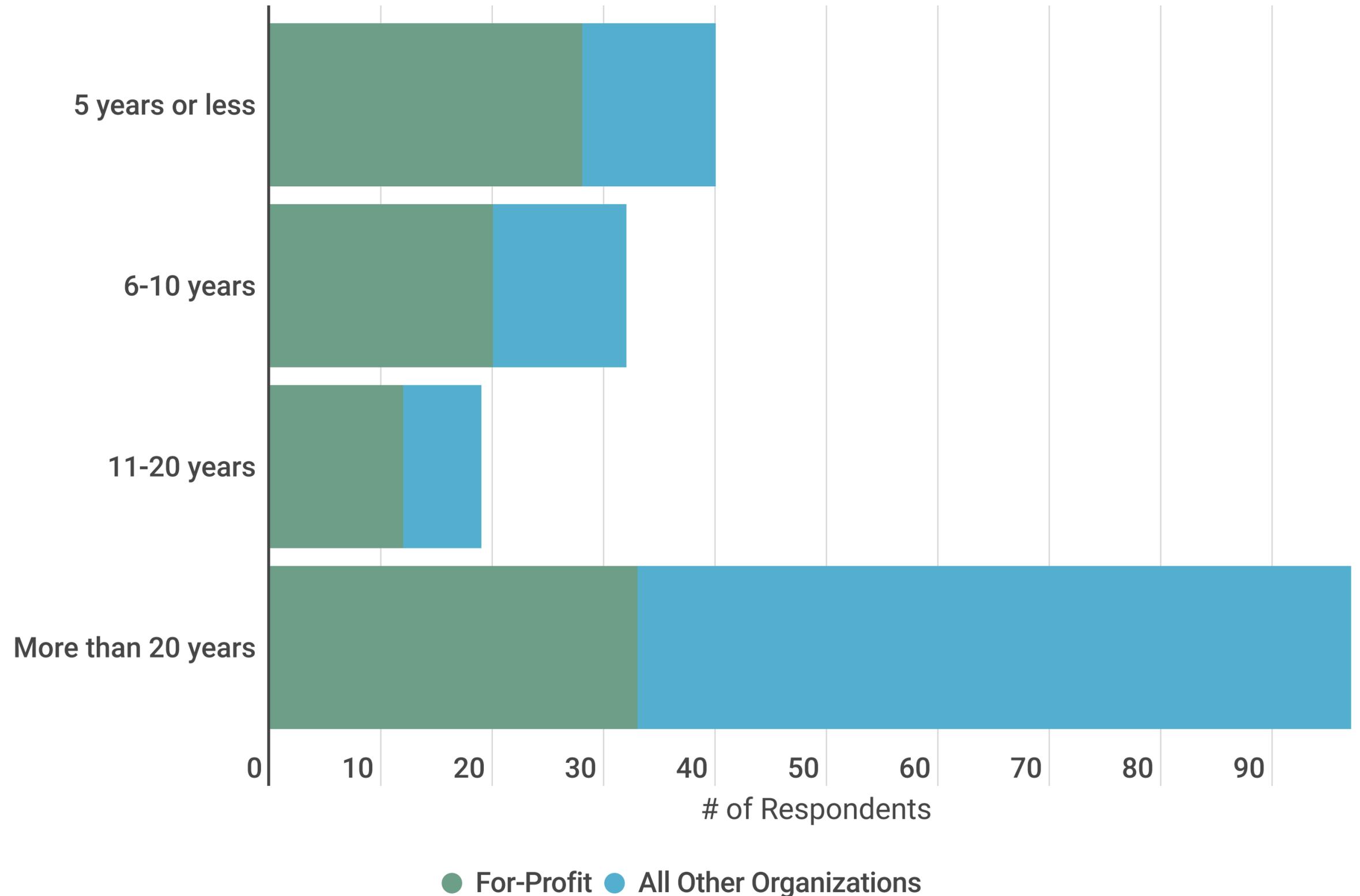


● For-Profit ● All Other Organizations

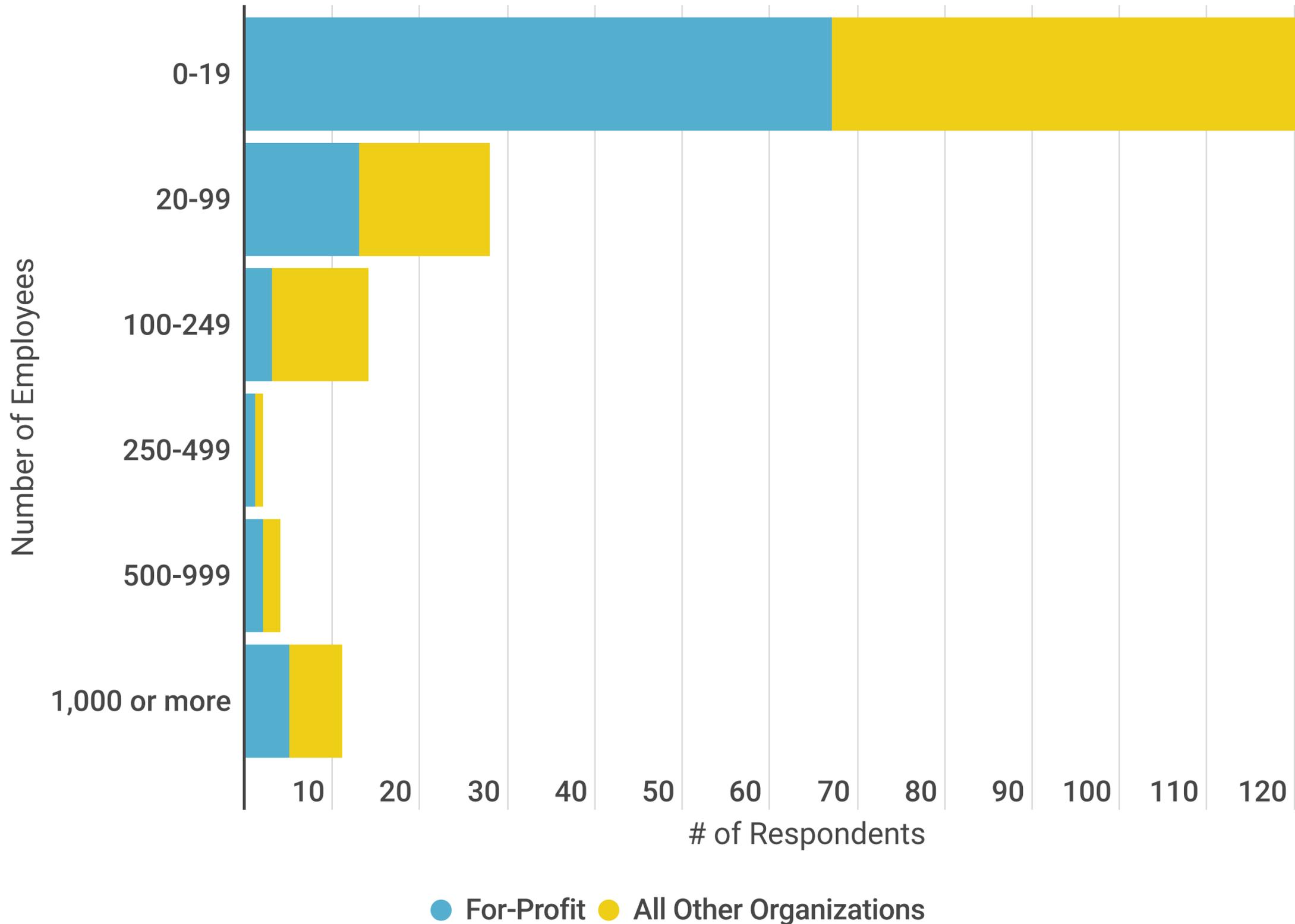
**89%**  
of respondents held senior positions at their organizations, either as CEO, a senior executive, or self employed

# Age of Respondents' Organizations

**52%**  
of respondents worked at organizations older than 20 years. However, more business respondents were from firms younger than 20 years



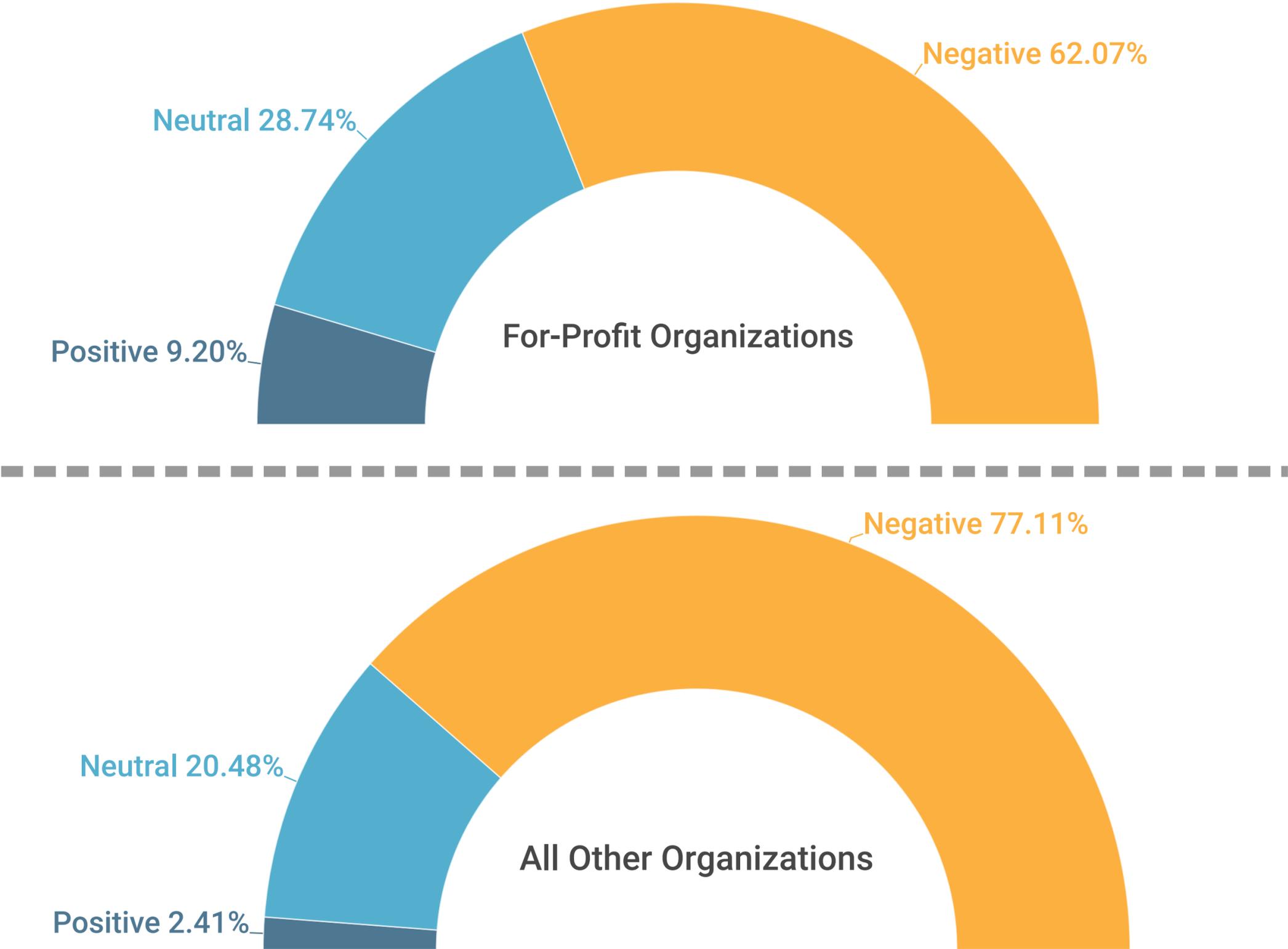
# Size of Respondent Organizations



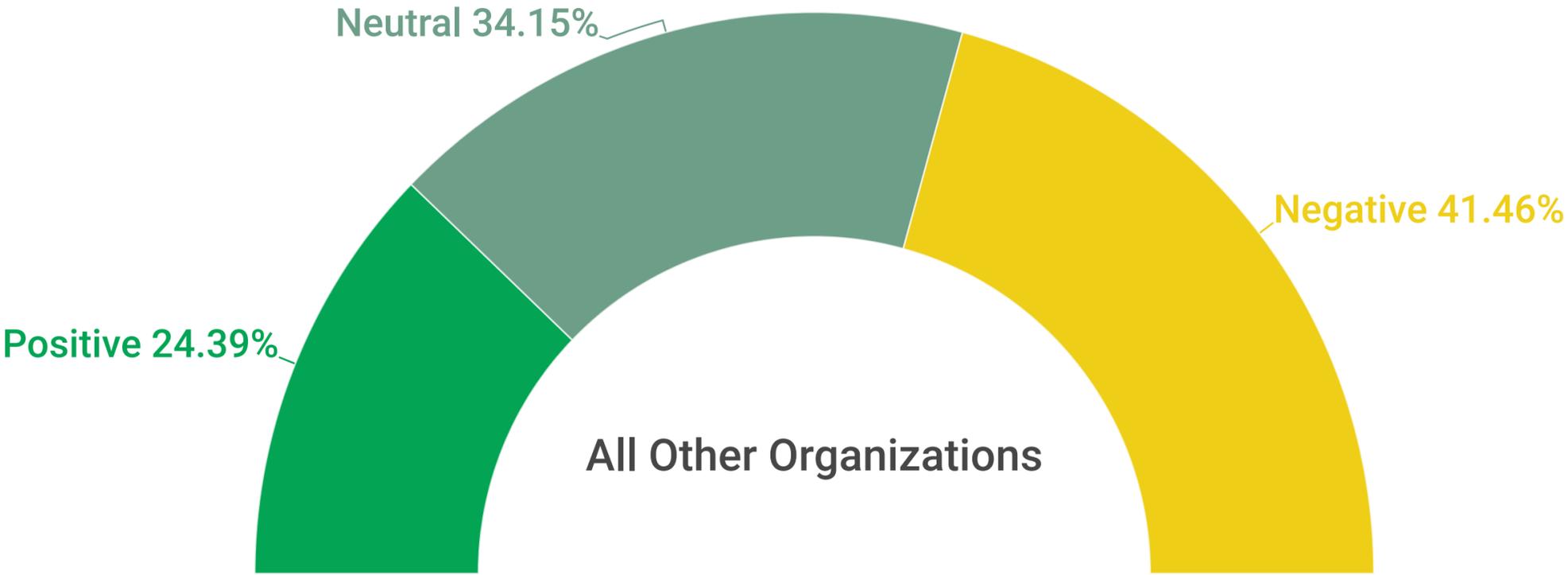
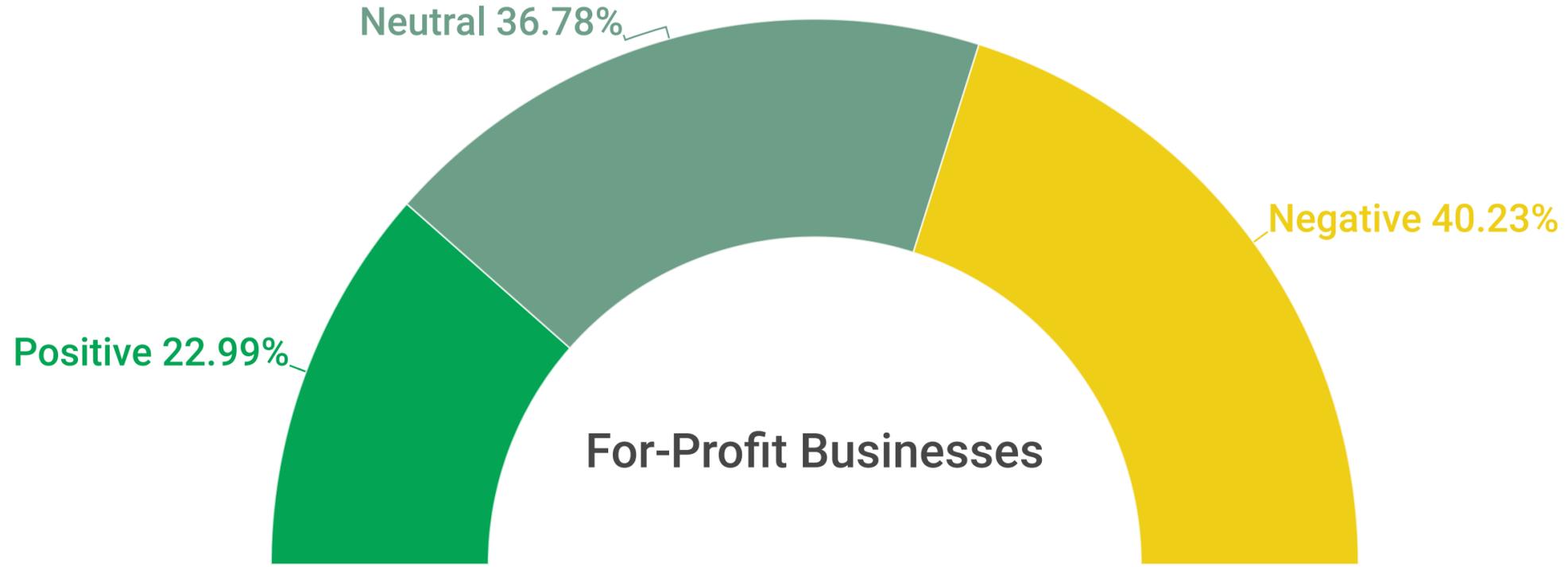
**83%**  
of respondents  
were housed at  
organizations that  
employed fewer  
than 100  
employees

# How do Respondents Feel About the State's Economic Future?

Attitudes toward Alaska's economic future were predominantly negative, both from respondents at for-profit businesses, and nonprofits and government organizations



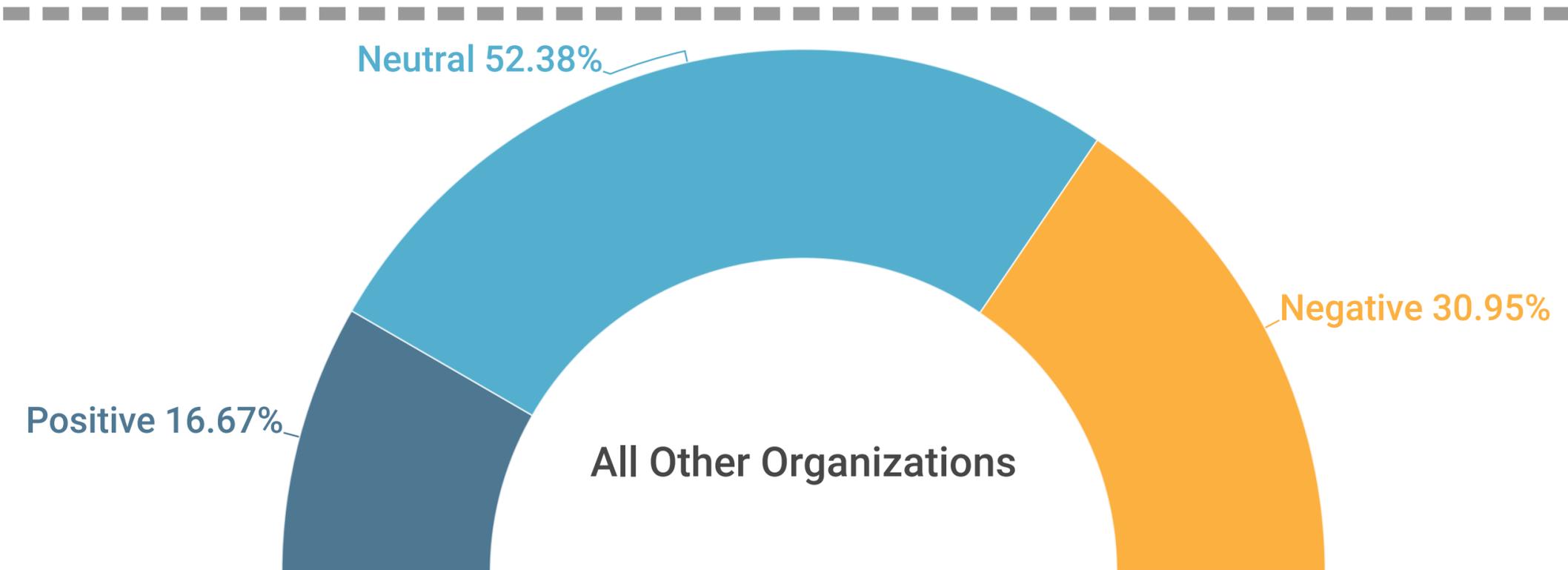
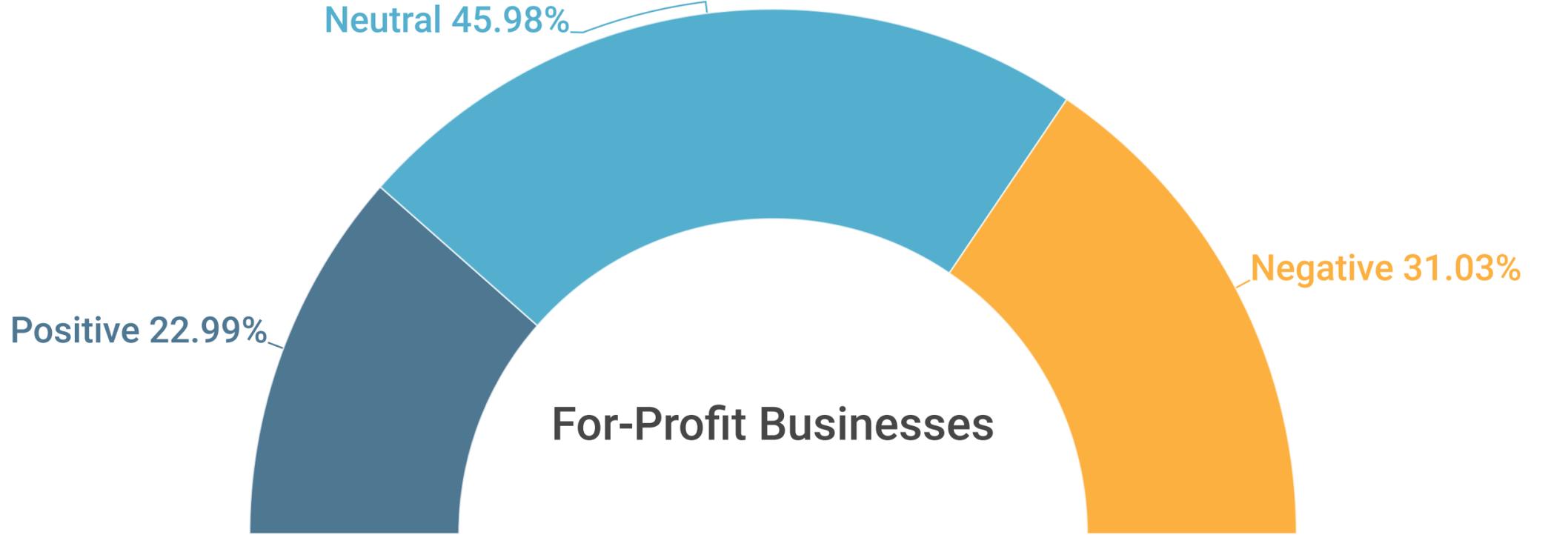
# How do Respondents Feel About their Industry's Outlook in the Next Year?



While slightly better than the outlook on the overall economy, respondents report negative attitudes toward their industry's outlook.

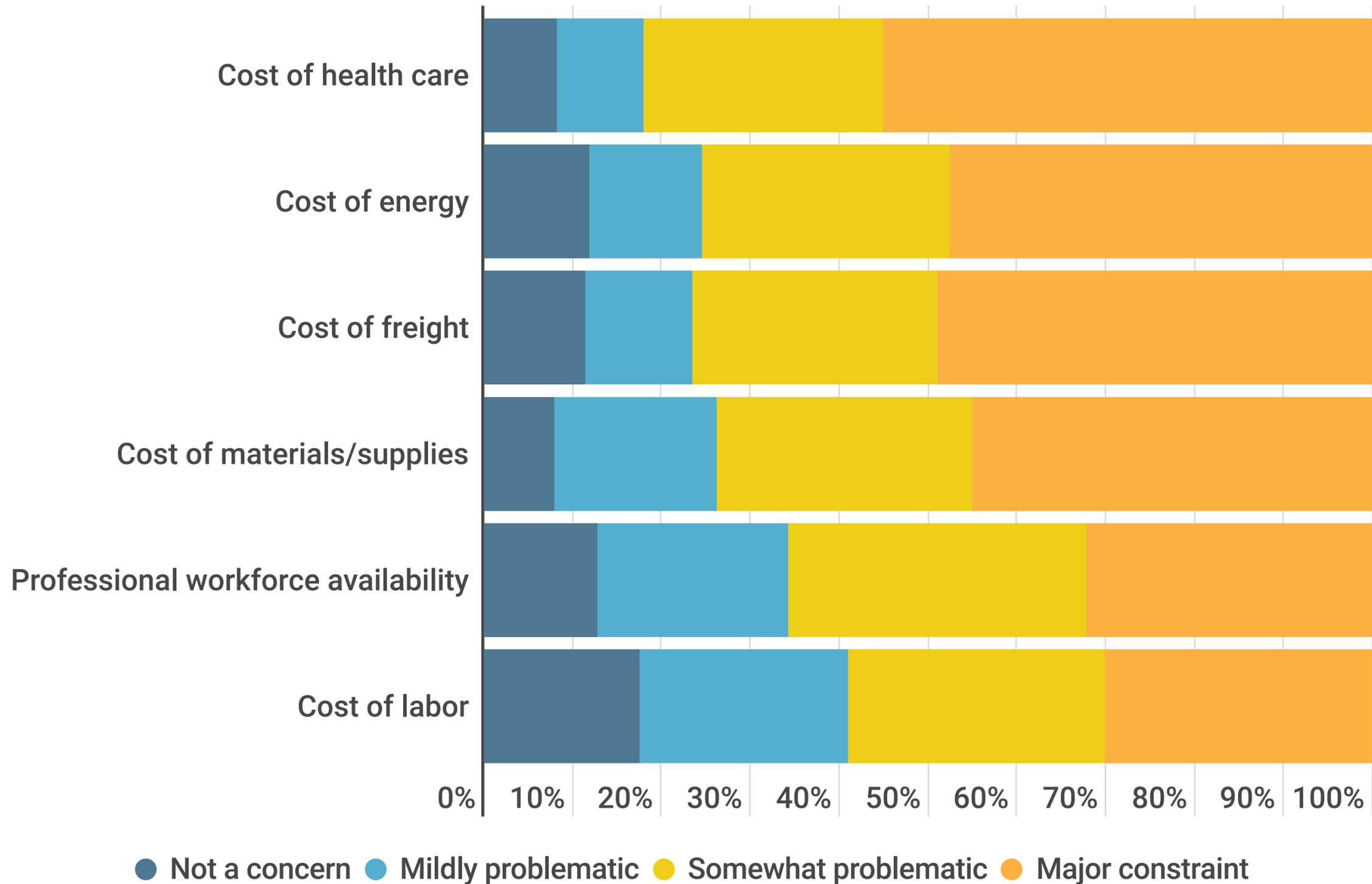
# How do Respondents Feel About Quality of Life in Alaska?

The largest amount of respondents, from both businesses and other organizations, reported feeling neutral about quality of life in Alaska



# What Barriers do Respondents See for their Organizations?

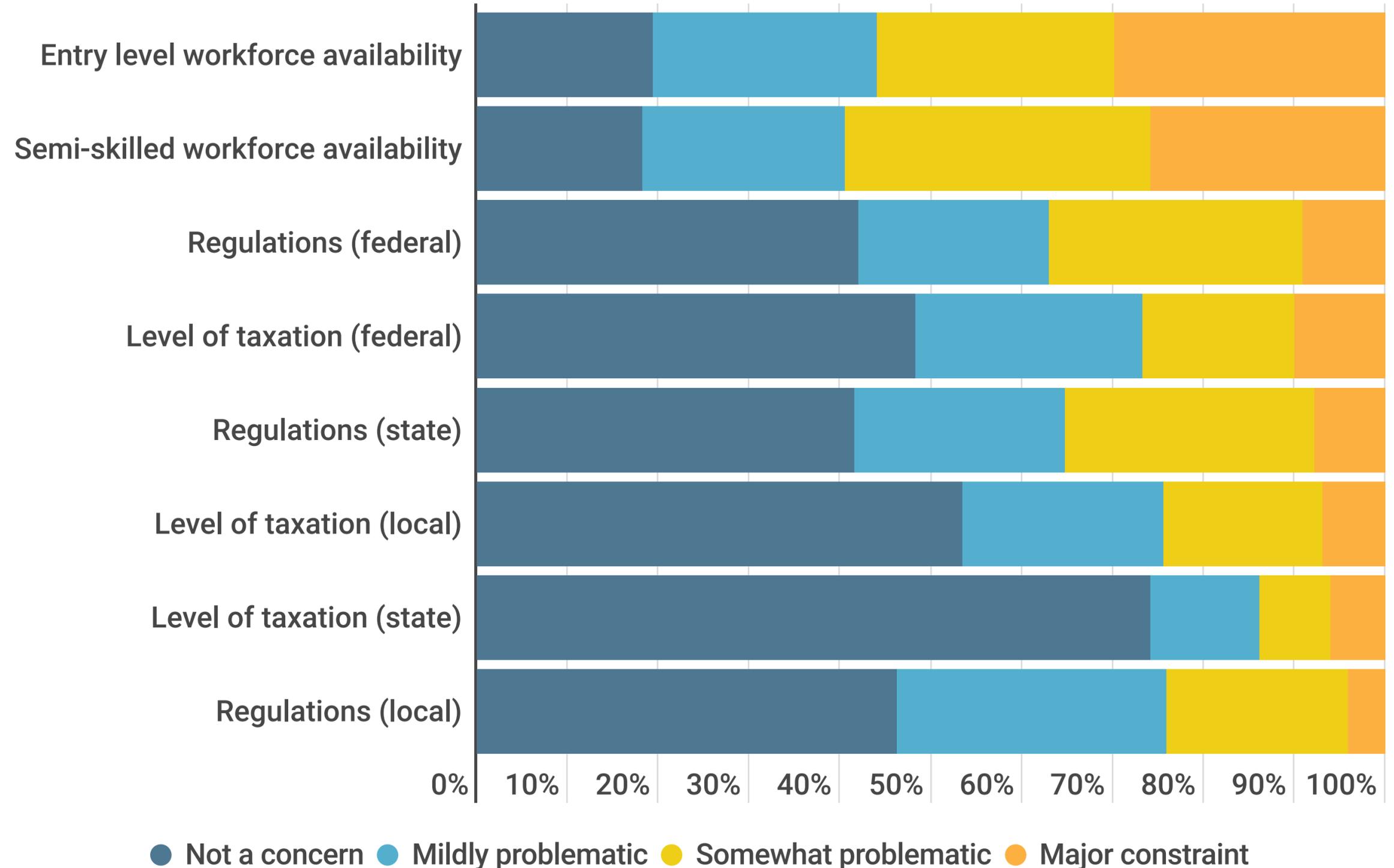
## All Organizations Responses



All types of organizations found the cost of doing business (healthcare, energy, freight, materials/supplies, and labor) to be a constraint for their organization.

# Continued...What Barriers do Respondents See for their Organizations?

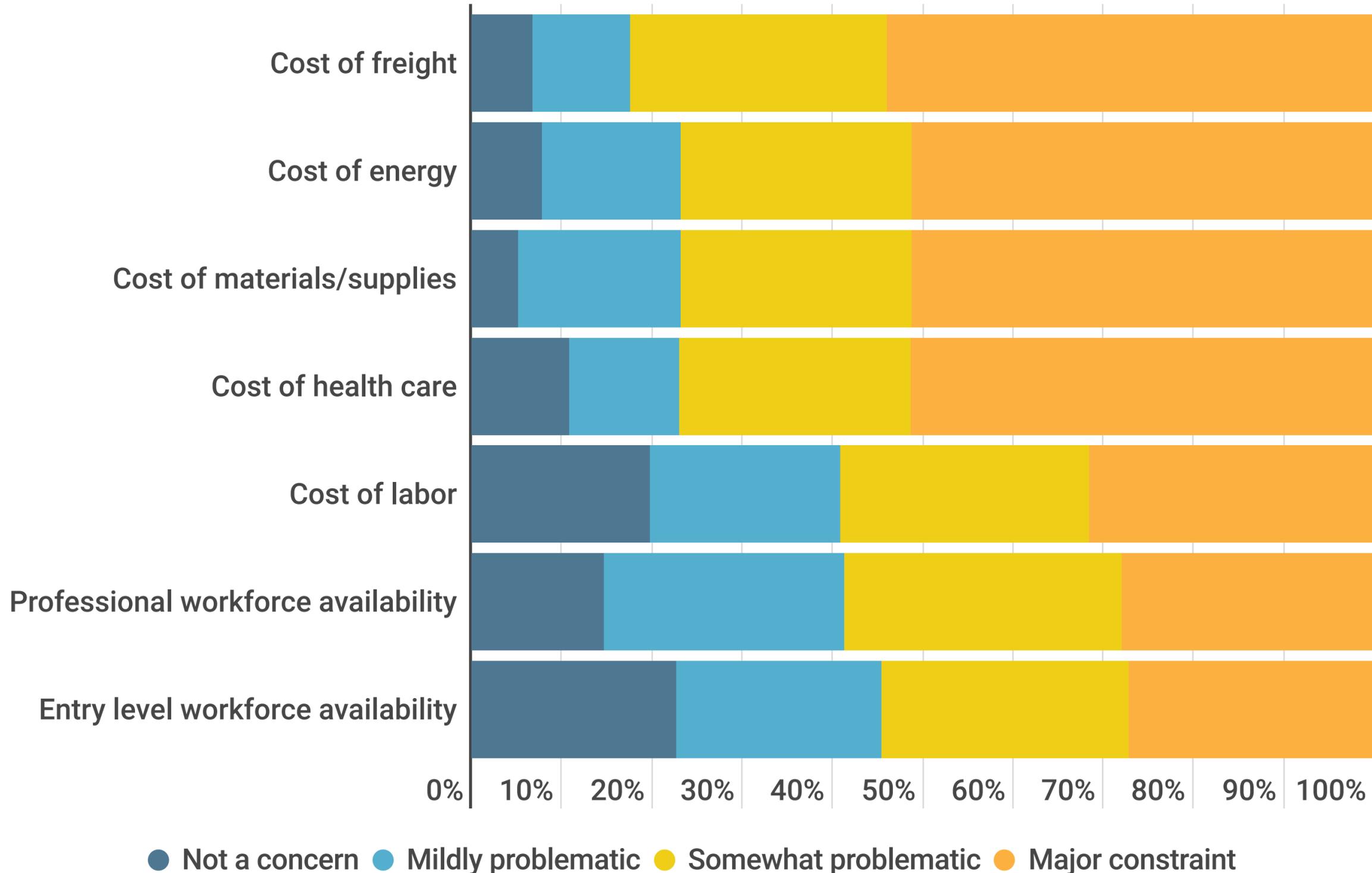
## All Organizations Responses



Overall, respondents found regulations and taxes (local, state, and federal) to be the least problematic in Alaska, with the majority of respondents ranking them either "mildly problematic" or "not a concern."

# Continued...What Barriers do Respondents See for their Organizations?

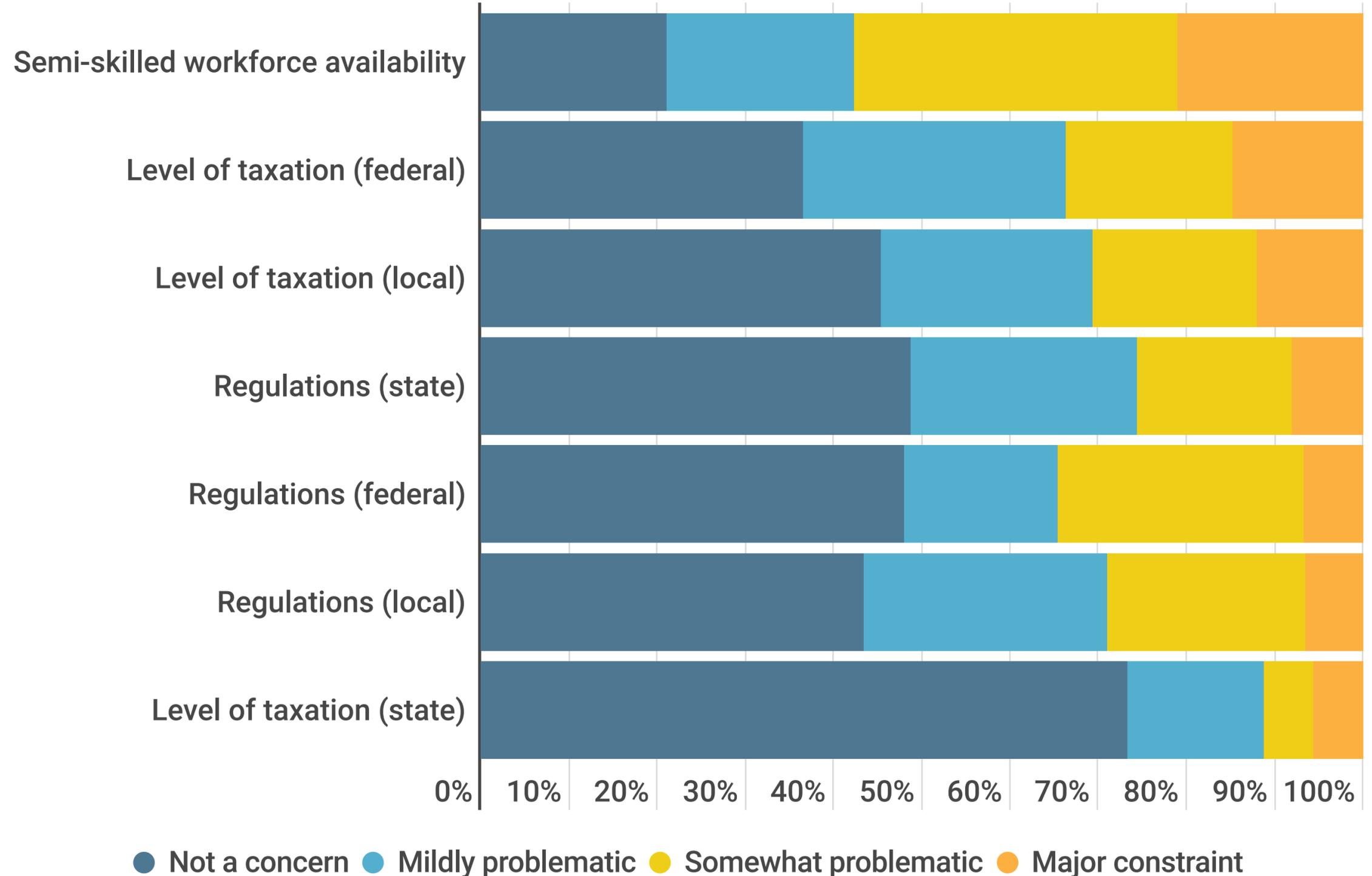
## For-Profit Business Responses Only



Looking at the responses of for-profit businesses on their own, the results are nearly identical. With variable associated with the cost of doing business and workforce availability listed as constraints.

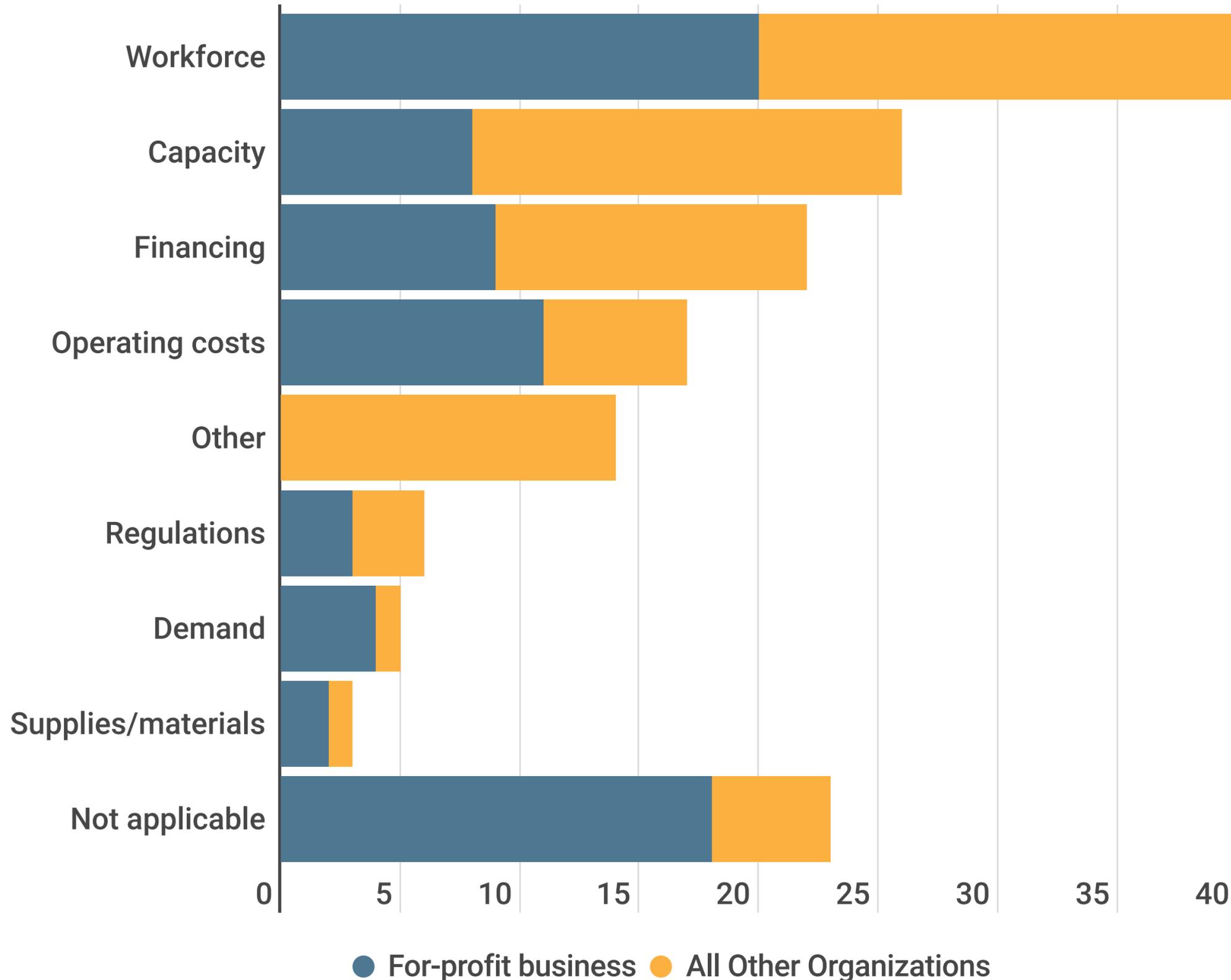
# Continued...What Barriers do Respondents See for their Organizations?

## For-Profit Business Responses Only



Similar to the overall responses, for-profit businesses found regulations and taxation to not be a constraint. However, differing from the overall results, businesses listed federal regulations as a larger constraint.

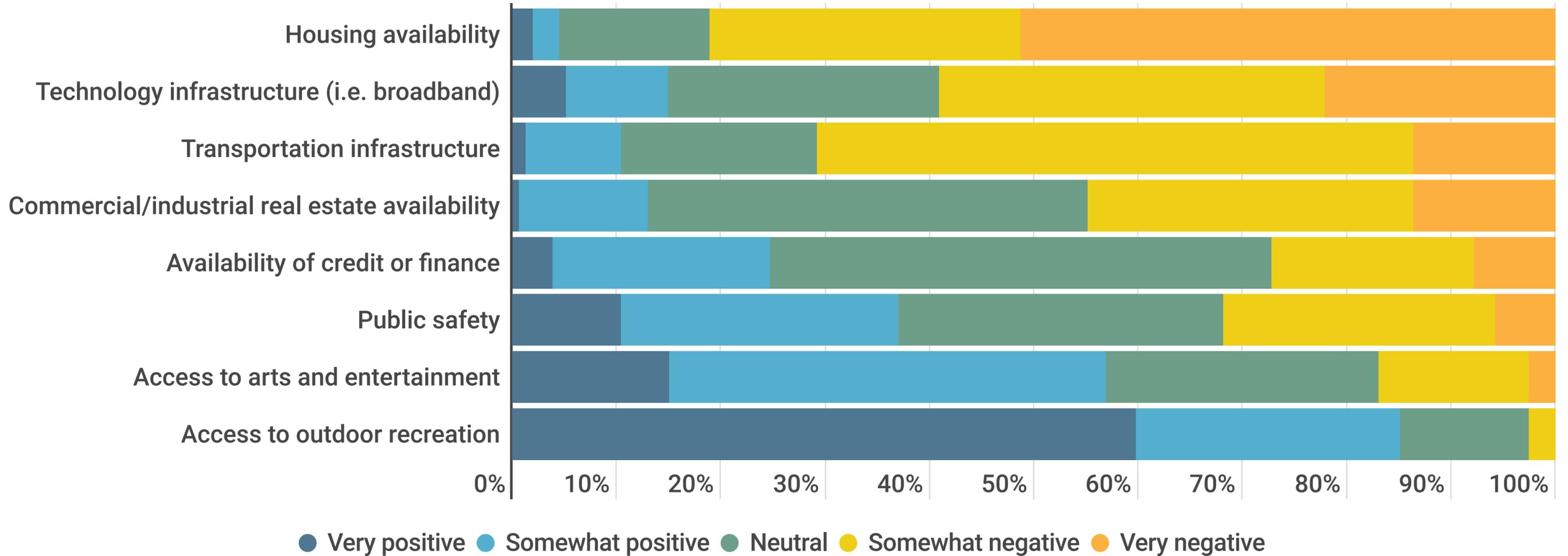
# What is the Most Limiting Factor for Respondents' Organizations?



Workforce was cited as the top limiting factor by all organization types. However, after that results diverge. Operating costs are among the top constraints cited by businesses, while capacity and financing ranked high among nonprofit and government respondents.

# How do Respondents Perceive the Impact of Various Economic "Enablers"?

## All Organizations' Responses

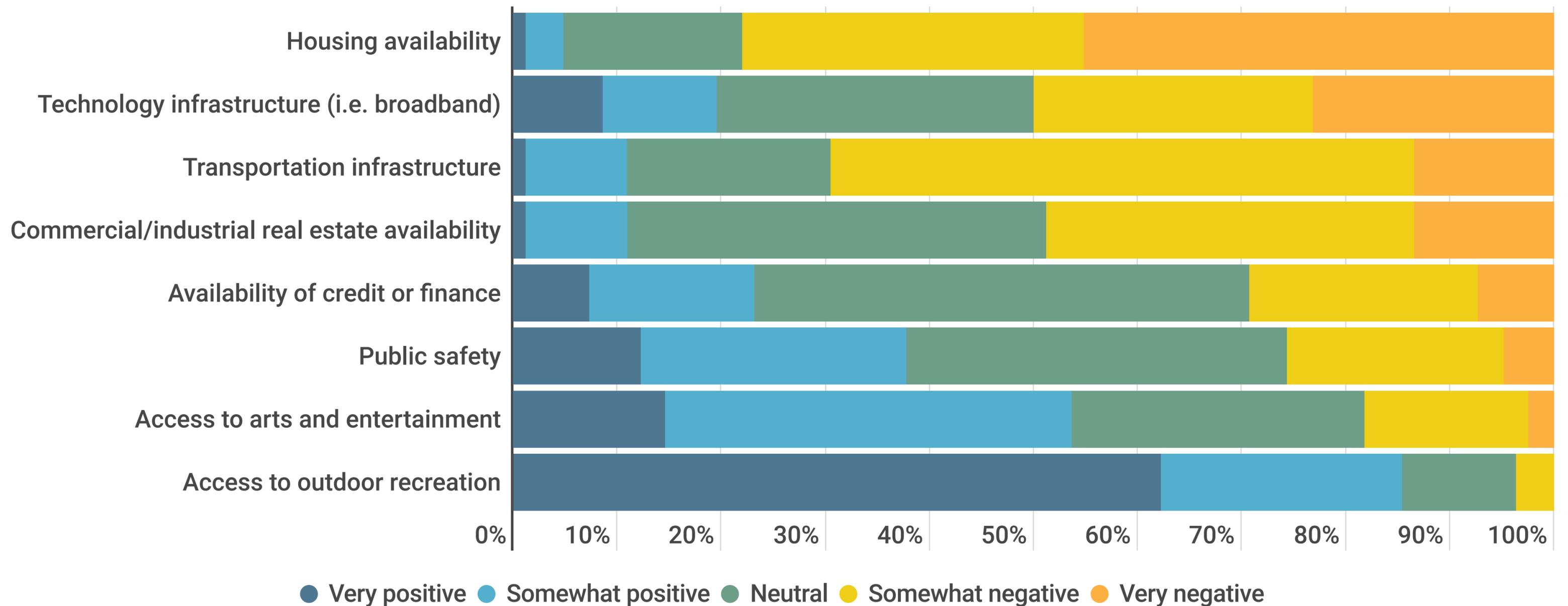


Respondents cite predominately negative perceptions of housing availability and transportation infrastructure as economic enablers. Perception of access to arts and entertainment and access to outdoor recreation were ranked among the most positive.

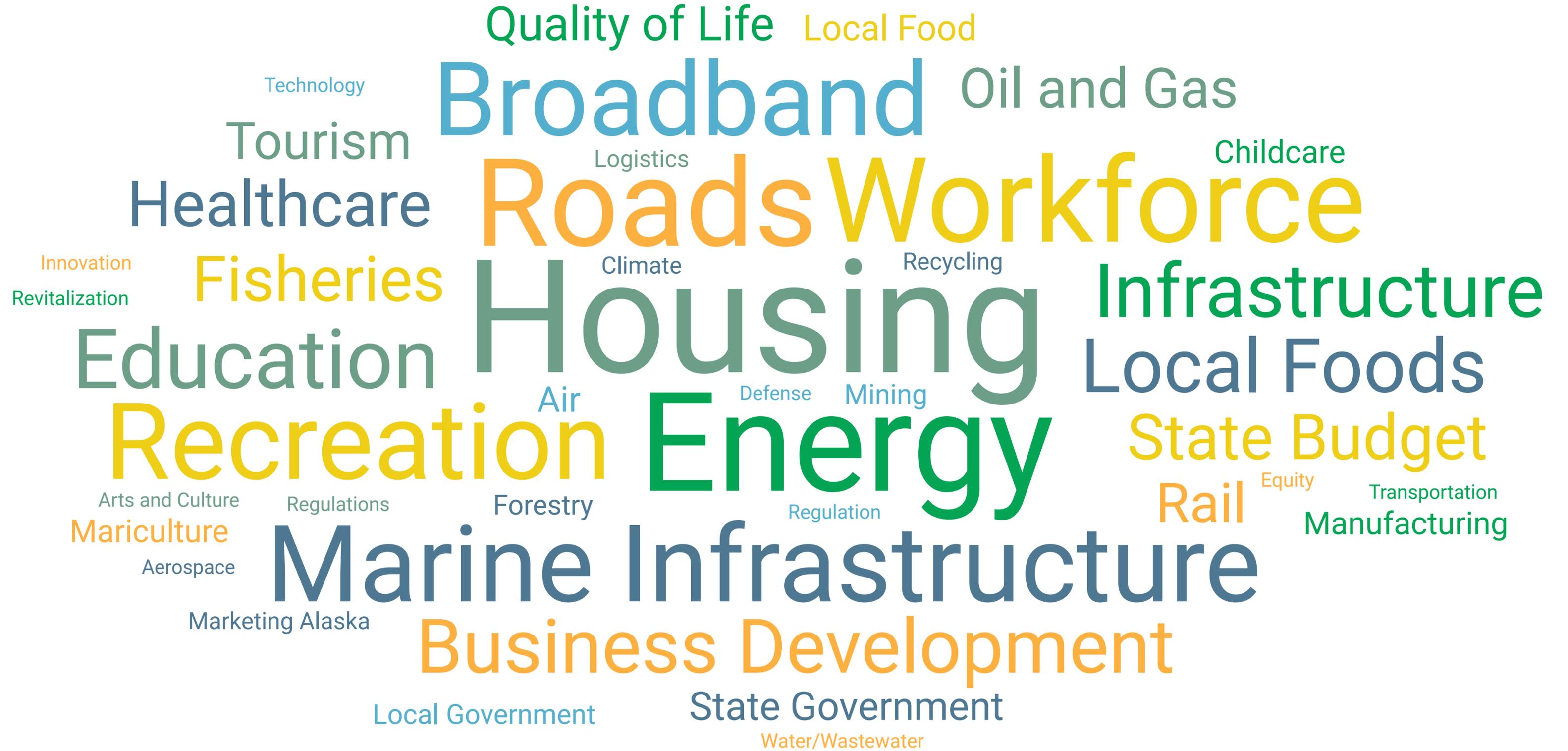
# How do Respondents Perceive the Impact of Various Economic "Enablers"?

## For-Profit Business Responses

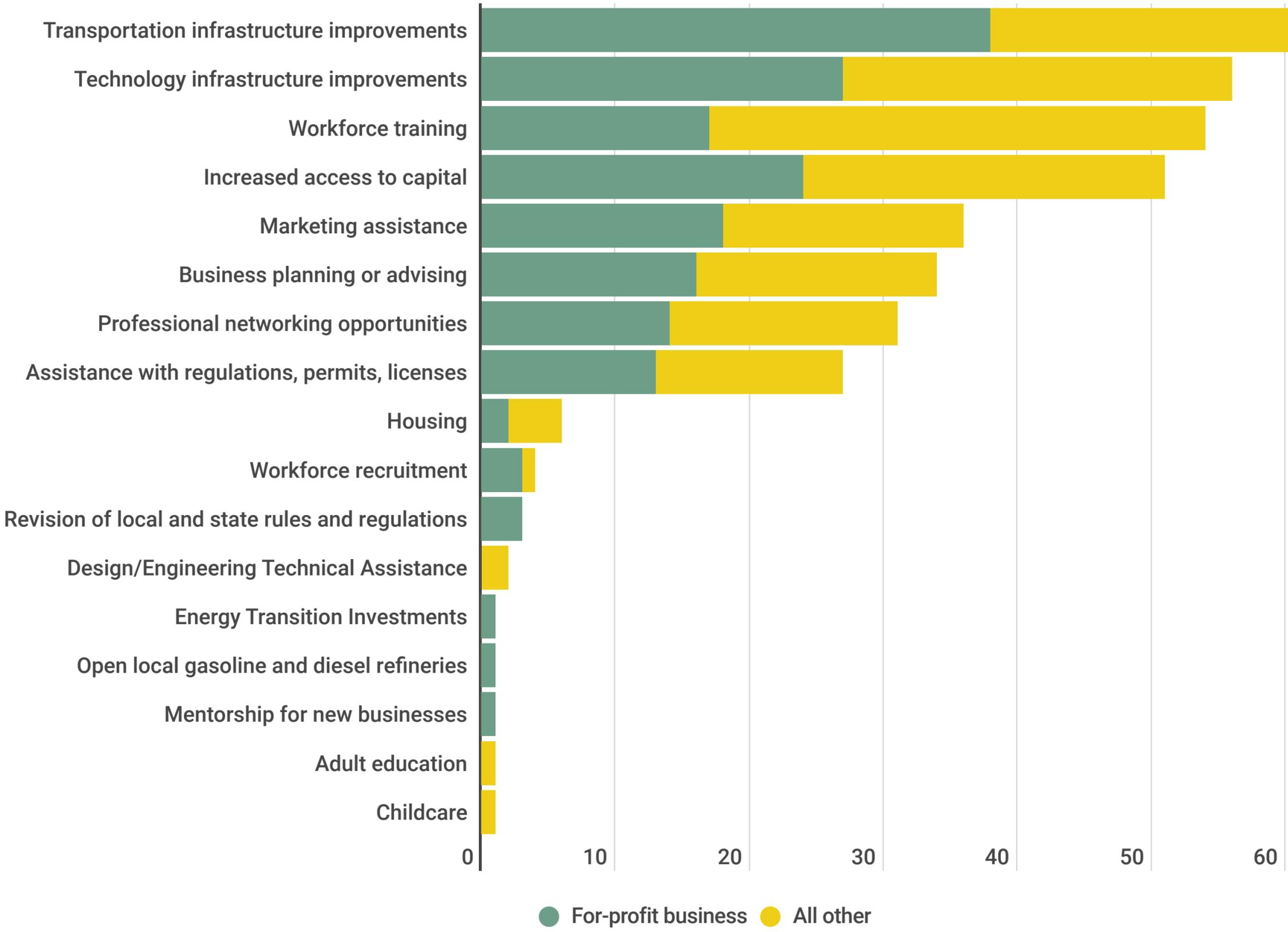
Among for-profit business respondents, as a sub population of survey responses, perceptions of economic enablers were largely similar.



# What Types of Projects do Respondents Think will Boost the Economy?



# Which Services do Respondents Think will Help their Organizations Expand?



With a relatively similar opinions between for-profit businesses and other organizations, infrastructure improvements rank the highest for services to improve organizational expansion. Workforce training and increased access to capital also ranked among the top four.

# Other Commentary from Survey Respondents



Kotzebue - "I truly believe in developing the small business sector. More work needs to focus on economic development in our villages. Each village in Alaska should be known for one product or activity they produce. Continue support programs for commercial fishermen and small farmers."

Fairbanks - "Focus on wind-solar-battery energy, blue economy, better housing design, and leveraging government-industry-academia nexus."

Juneau - "Affordable housing needs to be at the top of the list - my business is losing employees (both staff leaving town due to lack of housing, and applicants who accept employment then withdraw due to lack of housing); workforce shortages directly related to lack of affordable housing has led my business to reduce the work we do and use waitlists for critical healthcare services due to lack of staff."

Unalaska - "The state could expand marketing and investment for, Study in Alaska programs, Live and Work in Alaska Programs, Alaska travel and tourism programs, in order to encourage more people outside of the state to know about the opportunities, as well as keep the brain drain as minimal as possible."

Anchorage - "There needs to be collaborative work between industries, government and the legislature to develop strategic policies to create economic expansion"